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- 13.—*Friends in Council. A Series of Readings and Discourse thereon.* Boston: James Munroe & Co. 1853. 2 vols. 16mo. pp. 291, 271.

MANY of our readers are already familiar with the serene philosophy and high religious wisdom displayed in the various essays of Arthur Helps. The First Book of "Friends in Council" was republished by Messrs. Munroe & Co. in 1849. The greater part of the Second Book is devoted to the discussion of Slavery, in a lofty and resolute, but calm, conciliatory, and Christian spirit. We, indeed, on our side of the Atlantic, are prone to claim the monopoly of this vexed subject; and we may perhaps urge our claim with some color of reason, when we withdraw our sympathy from the oppressed of other nations, and exclude from our press, our lecture-rooms, and our halls of legislation, all diatribes against European misrule and absolutism.

- 14.—*Thoughts to Help and to Cheer.* Boston: Crosby, Nichols, & Co. 1854. 16mo. pp. 191.

THIS little volume contains a verse of Scripture, with a prose extract and a stanza or two of devotional poetry, for every day of a half-year. The work could hardly have been performed with purer taste, or in a more devout spirit, and will "help and cheer" those (and it were well if they were a numerous class) who prize such manuals of piety.

- 15.—*Homiletics; or the Theory of Preaching.* By A. VINET, D.D. Translated and edited by THOMAS H. SKINNER, D.D. New York: Ivison & Phinney. 1854. 24mo. pp. 524.

OUR clerical readers are well aware of the poverty of this department of literature; and will be glad to know that the work before us comprises a philosophical analysis of the theory of preaching, illustrated and enriched by numerous references to, and extracts from, the most distinguished French and German preachers. The translation is admirably executed, and the editor's notes add essentially to the value of the work.